THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL) : (a) to (c) The allocation of rice and wheat from the Central Pool to various States/UTs for Public Distribution System are made on a month to month basis, taking into account the stock position in the Central Pool, market availability, past off take etc Decisions regarding scales of issue to consumers are taken by State Governments/UT Administrations.

Under the present policy of partial control, levy sugar allocations to States/UTs are made on a uniform norm of 425 Grams per capita monthly availability for the projected population as on 1-10-86. Monthly levy sugar allocation to Madhya Pradesh is also made accordingly At present, there is no proposal to revise the norms of allotment of levy sugar

PDS allocations are only supplemental in nature and are not intended to meet the entire requirements of any States/UT.

Smuggling of paddy into Madhya Pradesh from Maharashtra

1831. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that free trade of rice in Maharashtra, the neighbouring State of Madhya Pradesh, is adversely affecting the market of rice in Madhya Pradesh wherein the farmers are not getting remunerative prices;

(b) whether Government are also aware that Maharashtra being not a major Paddy producing State neither imposes any tax nor any levy is collected on Paddy there, the price of Paddy are much lower than they are in Madhya Pradesh as a result of which large quantity of Paddy is brought into Madhya Pradesh from Maharashtra and therefore the prices of Paddy in Madhya Pradesh go further down and the farmers are denied remunerative prices; and

(c) whether Government propose to take up the matter with Maharashtra Government and sort out this problem in the interest of paddy farmers of Madhya Pradesh ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL) : (a) No rice is purchased directly from farmers. Rice is procured under statutory levy on millers and dealers, and paddy is purchased against voluntary offers by the farmers under the Government's price support scheme. A quantity of 33·64 thousand tonnes of rice (including paddy in terms of rice) has been procured in Madhya Pradesh by F.C.I. and State agencies during the current kharif marketing season 1989-90 upto 22-5-90. 2320 purchase centres of paddy procurement have been opened in Madhya Pradesh during the current kharif marketing season 1989-90 as compared to 1096 centres operated last year.

(b) There are no inter-State movement restrictions on paddy and levy-free rice from Maharashtra to other States. Farmers are free to sell their paddy to public procuring agencies at the support price or in the open market as is advantageous to them.

(c) As per information received from State Government of Maharashtra on 21-5-1990, the State Government, has now decided to vacate the stay given earlier to Maharashtra Rice (Levy on Rice millers) Order 1989.